MURDER FOR SENSATION.

CHICAGO STUDENTS PLEAD GUILTY.

Nathan Leopold (19) and Richard Loeb (18), the two college boys charged with the kidnapping and murder of Robert Franks, a 14-year-old schoolboy, have both pleaded guilty to the charge, says a Central News message from Chicago.

This development has caused astonishment to the State Attorneys, who were expecting that a stiff fight would be made on behalf of the lads, who belong to wealthy families.

The court, however, decided to hear the evidence of both sides, and it will be within the discretion of the judge to sentence the prisoners, if convicted, to be hanged, or to imprisonment for 14 years or for life.

Craving for Excitement.

After trying, in the first place, to set up an alibi, Leopold and Loeb finally confessed to the police that, driving up in a motor car as the students were coming out of Harvard School, they kidnapped Franks, the son of a millionaire, and choked him, after which they wrote to his parents demanding a ransom of 10,000 dollars.

The only reason they gave was the craving for excitement and a desire to match their skill with that of the police.

A Press Association message says:—Mr Clarence Darrow, attorney, in presenting the motion in favour of withdrawing the plea of "not guilty" and substituting a plea of "guilty," informed the Court that the only move on the part of the defence would be to present evidence regarding the mental condition and the degree of responsibility of the two defendants, which, having been done, "we will throw ourselves on the mercy of the court."

Social Isolation.

Continuing his statement counsel for the defence gave it as his opinion that the two youths should be permanently isolated from society. He emphasised that "it was never our intention to attempt to restore them to freedom."

Leopold and Loeb were neatly dressed, freshly shaved, and were wearing fashionable bow ties. Their appearance, however, was somewhat wan. They entered the court accompanied by four bailiffs. Shortly before the proceedings began they exchanged smiling greetings with their counsel.

After hearing the opposing counsel, Mr Justice Claverley set aside this morning for hearing the evidence regarding the sanity of the defendants.

The judge then summoned each boy in turn to the bar of the court and asked him—"Knowing that the court may sentence you to death, to imprisonment for life, or for a term of years, do you still desire to plead guilty?"

Both youths answered "Yes" without comment.

BOY MURDERERS.

SENSATIONAL STATEMENTS AT TRIAL.

Chicago, Wednesday.

When the notorious case in which the two youths, Nathan Leopold, jun., and Richard Loeb, are accused of the murder of a schoolboy named Franks, opened to-day, the court-room was jammed with curious crowds. Chief Justice Caverley was on the bench. Leopold appeared to be unconcerned, but Loeb was pale, and wore a startled expression.

The Court proceeded with the murder indictment. Mr Crowe opened the case for the State. He described how the crime had been planned months ahead, defendants even going so far as to experiment with throwing a compact bundle of newspapers from a moving train in order to learn where it would land, so that they might later be able to instruct the father of their victim how to throw ransom money to them.

The Crime and After.

The boys, whom the Attorney styled as "cold, calculating murderers," had discussed together the feasibility of kidnapping different boys, and finally they picked on Bobby Franks, with whom Loeb was in the habit of playing tennis in the latter's garden. Having enticed him into a waiting motor car especially hired for the purpose, they had hardly turned the corner before the poor little innocent was struck on the head, and while he was gasping for life, Leopold reached over from the back seat, seized him by the throat, and squeezed out the last life from the fragile body.

Mr Crowe then described the trip to the railroad culvert, where defendants completely undressed the body, after which Leopold took the body and forced it face downward into a drain. Counsel added that efforts to destroy the features with acid failed because of water in the culvert. The murderers then returned home, where they carfully burned the garments in the family furnace, cunningly reserving one blood-stained robe lest the odour of it might saturate the house. This was later soaked in petrol and burned at a lonely spot on the lake shore. Next day they tried to wash the blood-stains from the car, but they were only partially successful.

Uncanny Equanimity.

Throughout this frightful indictment, the accused boys sat maintaining an uncanny equanimity, only occasionally whispering to each other.

Mr Crowe then told the Court how the boys mailed the ransom letter, and telephoned Franks' home making an appointment to meet his father at a near-by drug store. Meanwhile, however, the crime was discovered, and the conspirators abandoned their plan to collect the 10,000 dollars ransom.

Leopold's Badinage.

Talking to reporters outside the Court, Nathan Leopold expressed concern at the manner in which the newspapers would describe his clothing. Both boys smoked constantly in feverish puffs.

"Please don't make any mistakes to-day in describing our clothes," said Leopold, laughingly. "This is an important day. Look at me, and remember what I'm wearing. Mine's a dull grey hat; Dick's is a soft Fedora."

Loeb, who listened stolidly to this badinage, suppressed his companion, shouting, "Oh, shut up, Babe."—Press Association Foreign Special.

CHICAGO BOY MURDER.

Night Watchman's Story

Chicago, Thursday.

When the court re-assmbled to-day, the first witness to be heard in the trial of the two Chicago students, Loeb and Leopold, for the murder of the boy Franks, was a railroad electrician, who told of finding in a Pullman car on May 31 a letter addressed to the father of the victim, containing instructions for the manner in which the father was to throw the ransom money from a moving train.

The court-room presented much the same aspect as the first day. Leopold and Loeb seemed in good spirits, and exchanged smiling greetings with their relatives as they came in escorted by stalwart bailiffs.

Further witnesses identified the boys at various stages of the crime preparations, and an oculist identified the glasses found near the body as similar to those he had prescribed for Leopold.

Elizabeth Sattler, maid at Leopold's house, gave evidence regarding a portable typewriter on which the ransom letters are alleged to have been written. She said she had seen a machine of this type in frequent use by Leopold.

Night Watchman's Story.

The testimony had been uneventful, and the crowd in court yawned and shifted uneasily in their seats, while the atmosphere became momentarily more and more oppressive. There was, however, a stir of animation when Bernard Hunt, a night watchman, testified how, at 1.30 on the night of May 22, a car, with large red wheels and bright headlights, passed him as he was standing in the street, and that, as the car slowed down in order to turn, a man in the back of the car threw out a chisel, which fell tinkling on the sidewalk.

Hunt picked it up, and found it was wrapped in tape, and coated with freshly-dried blood. The gruesome relic was then produced, and given into the custody of the court.

An ironmonger employee declared that the chisel and a rope, alleged to have been used in the murder, resembled similar articles he remembered having sold to a man resembling Loeb, while a chemist's assistant described the purchase of hydrochloric acid by Leopold, the prosecution eliciting by cross-examination that the grade sold was the strongest obtainable, the assistant declaring that he had not sold any like it for three years

"Wine" on Car.

The chauffeur of the Leopold's testified that the car which the boys said they were driving on the day of the murder was not out of the garage up to the time he went to bed, about nine o'clock at night, on the 21st. Next day, however, the boys brought in a red touring car, and scrubbed off "some wine," as they called it, which had splashed in the car.

"Did you ever see either of them clean a car before?" asked the prosecutor.

"No," replied the chauffeur.

Finding of Body.

When the court convened, Tony Minke, a Polish labourer, speaking in Polish, described the finding of the body of a boy about 12 years old in a railroad culvert at 9 o'clock on May 22. He said that four men helped him to extricate the corpse, which was sticking out, denuded of all clothing. On looking around one man discovered the famous tortoiseshell spectacles, which were the first tangible clue linking the defendants with the murder. He handed them over to the police.

Another workman testified that he helped to place the body in a handcar. He saw two wounds in the head, while the face was "kind of blue."

The policeman who met the men with the body, and the undertaker to whose establishment the body was taken, then gave their evidence.—Press Association Foreign Special.

OVER A MILLION INVOLVED IN LABOUR DISPUTES.

Building Trade Peace Move.

SHIPYARDS CARRYING ON WITHOUT PROFITS.

Building disputes involving over a million workers are in being or pending.

A step towards peace in the building trade has been achieved by the Liverpool operatives' acceptance of the employers' offer.

It was stated yesterday by the managing director of the Naval Construction Works at Barrow-in-Furness that many shipyards were carrying on without profit.

MANY DISPUTES.

300,000 IDLE IN BUILDING TRADE.

Over a million workers are involved in the disputes in Britain, either in existence or pending. These may be classified as follows:—

Building Trades.—Over 300,000 men idle. Lockout or stoppage.

Bricklayers.—Strike threatened regarding the refusal of an increase of 10s a week. Matter referred to a Conciliation Committee.

Dock Gates, Porters.—Demand for a minimum wage of £4 5s a week. Strike pending. Negotiations as yet.

Engineering.—Demand for £1 increase. Employers' reason for refusal "dictated by a Workers' Committee. Strike likely.

Engineering.—Demand men on strike owing to the employment of non-trade unionists. Seven thousand men struck work in Scotland on Saturday over a dispute regarding the sliding scale. Increase demanded for £4 a week refused by employers.

Shipbuilding.—Demand for 10s increase. Matter referred by railway companies to the Industrial Council to confer.

SHIPYARDS OUTLOOK.

A GRAVE WARNING FROM BARROW.

Commander C. W. Craven, managing director of the Naval Construction works, Barrow-in-Furness, made some serious observations on shipbuilding prospects at the launching of the steamship Geraldine Mary, a cargo vessel built for the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company.

The vessel was successfully launched by Mrs Ramond Farnsworth, wife of the Hon. Ramond Farnsworth, M.P.

Sir Andrew Caird, vice-chairman of the Associated Newspapers, Ltd., and a director of the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company, proposed the toast of the builders.

Commander C. W. Craven, in reply, said Sir Andrew had touched on the state of the industry in which they tried to make a living. He believed that no great increase in the country would come to any district in the shipbuilding and engineering trades while the present state of depression as those of shipbuilding and the allied trades of engineering and steelmaking. That serious state of depression had been in existence for a large part of its work from Government Departments, but they in Barrow had felt it in a special degree, for only 10 per cent of their present work was for our own and foreign navies, at one time during the slump that had fallen to under 1 per cent. of the order in hand.

Figures Tell.

In August, 1914, they employed 16,000 men in those works, and at the time of their war activity were employing 36,000 men and women. Just about the time that the Geraldine Mary was laid down they had been relieved to a degree of the strain. Then they had now gratefully worked up to 8,000, and it was interesting to know that several of those now with them were apprentices, though in migrate to America during the worst period of depression and now returned to the town and the company's employment.

Although they had been fortunate in obtaining their fair share of shipbuilding orders against the most severe competition, they wished to make it clear that the Liverpool brick-layers had decided by a narrow majority to accept the formula put forward by the Liverpool employers, it was too early to say that a national agreement was likely to be reached. There were many outstanding points which required attention before the negotiations could be regarded as closed, even if the other Liverpool trades fell into line with the bricklayers.

LIVERPOOL BUILDERS.

SMALL MAJORITY FOR SETTLEMENT.

At Clapham Common yesterday, the general secretary of the National Federation, announced that a local building problem, which had been a source of anxiety to the whole of the country, had been solved, but the Liverpool bricklayers formed only a part of the problem. Nothing was out of the way, they had yet to grips with the question, the real fundamental problem now was one and guaranteed a time negotiations between the employers will be resumed.

EMPLOYERS' VIEW.

Of the employers' organisation he said that although they were not satisfied with the proposals put forward by the Liverpool brick-layers, they had decided by a narrow majority to accept the formula put forward because it was too early to say that a national agreement was likely to be reached. There were many outstanding points which required attention before the negotiations could be regarded as closed, even if the other Liverpool trades fell into line with the brick-layers.

COVENT GARDEN DISPUTE.

LONDON'S FOOD SUPPLY.

Dock strike at Covent Garden threatened. Supplies of greasy, butter. There was a danger of London's supply of food and vegetables being affected.

The Committee stated that the employers had decided to carry out instructions that the union not to handle goods from the docks, but nothing has yet been said regarding cross-Channel consignments.

Mr Gosser, secretary of the four unions representing the employers, stated yesterday that he had received information from the Ministry of Labour that merchants to meet him, and they would meet the Minister to-day.

The Committee of the Transport Workers' Union held a meeting yesterday, and accepted the Government statement, decided on a settlement, but agreed to defer action in the dock strike.

"Of course," said the statement, "we take an opportunity of sitting down and discussing the position with the Government. If the position falls, sweet instructions will be issued by Mr Bevin and Mr Williams expire."

It is understood that the deferred action concerns Channel supplies of perishable fruit.

THREATENED MINE STRIKE.

Doncaster, owing to the owners not accepting a recent wage agreement, the men's notice to cease work. The Bullcliffe Company has refused to sign, stating that a heightened price would probably lead to permanent unemployment. A complete stoppage of the coalfield is probable.

NATION'S FINANCES.

NEARLY £5,000,000 DROP IN DEFICIT.

The returns of national revenue and expenditure for last night's "London Gazette" show that the deficit on the year ended 19th March was £23,253,863, as compared with the previous year's deficit of £28,158,233. This shows a decrease in the deficit of £4,904,370. The week's revenue was £18,818,000 and the expenditure £19,418,000, leaving a deficit for the week of £600,000, as compared with a deficit for the corresponding week of last year, £1,000,000.

The figures for the period from April 1 last year to March 19 last are:—

REVENUE.

This year	£389,947,005
Last year	385,179,231
Increase	£20,832,226

EXPENDITURE.

This year	£398,982,358
Last year	394,490,733
Increase	£5,439,370

CANTEEN SCANDAL.

EX-OFFICER'S ILLEGAL TRANSACTIONS.

Glasgow, Tuesday.

After being twice remanded, Harry William Harrison, a former officer of the York Rifles, and Stephanie Hallam, an ex-officer's wife, were brought before a British Summary Court to-day charged with aiding and abetting a fraudulent transaction in connection with the Navy, Army, and Air Force Institute canteen.

Sprigg, exclusively for British military (by sanction), letter the coloured servicery free of duty, whisky being retailed at 5s 6d per bottle and gin at 2s 11d, the German retail price being the same as in England.

The chief witness was the German employee of a British liquor agent, who, finding his sales falling, actually bought illegally when approached, and then revealed the transactions.

The accused admitted the charge, the woman pleading ignorance that the transactions were illegal.

Judgment was reserved.

Three other accused are awaiting trial by court-martial.—Reuter.

BRITISH NAVAL SUPREMACY.

American Admiral's Charges.

Williamstown (U.S.A.), Tuesday.

Rear Admiral Rodgers, of the United States Navy, speaking at the Institute of Politics to-day, stated that Great Britain dominated the League of Nations and the commerce of the world, and had inspired the Washington Conference in order to prevent the United States from having a sufficiently strong navy to protect its merchant marine which could compete with Britain's.

"Our limitation of armaments of three years ago," said the Admiral, "played into Britain's hands, and, indeed, originated in it. She does not wish us to interfere with her as our national growth might permit us to do. It was the competition of our merchant fleet that Great Britain wished to kill, and hoped indirectly to limit by direct action upon our navy. It is not to be thought that she was contemplating the rivalry of the navies as the primary issue.

"Regarding the prospective international loan to Germany, it is alleged that American bankers are waiting for Britain to take the initiative. If that be the case, let us reflect how far it may be explained by the ability of Britain to control the commerce by which Germany will pay her reparations, and thus which America can credit the tool of British shipping."

Commenting on these remarkable charges, the British shipping authority, Sir Thomas Sutton, declared that he had never heard a whisper of such things in all his years of intimate association with British shipping. British ships, he said, went where the interests of private owners and shippers took them, and the British Government never knew where the merchant ships were or what they were doing.—Reuter.

POSITION IN SUDAN.

EGYPT AND BRITAIN'S "ADVANTAGE."

Alexandria, Tuesday.

A marked dissent has succeeded the recent storm. The Press to-day is far less excited. Misr al Fatat counsels calm and caution in order that, as they say, Great Britain may have no further "opportunity of advantage."

The Opposition press criticises the Government's weakness, and calls for the summoning of Parliament so that the nation may take part in establishing what should be done, and may share in the responsibility for whatever policy may be adopted. The "Muse," the Wafdist organ, declares that Egypt will however support the Government in its policy for union with the Sudan, and suggests that the Opposition should unite to support the Government as long as it maintains a firm attitude towards Great Britain.

Here there is noticeably little reference to the demands published with the British communique, and it looks very much as if it were generally recognised that the Egyptian Government had blundered in issuing its first communique.

Meanwhile the Cabinet continues to sit daily for many hours. While the dispute over the pilgrimage with the Hedjaz is well in the fore in the present deliberations, it is understood that it also is considering the attitude to be adopted with regard to the British Note presented on Friday last. It is not at first considered that it will, so to speak, "crossed with the Egyptian protest sent to London, and that there was no need for a reply. It seems, however, that this matter is also receiving attention, and that in official circles that a reply will be sent within the next few days.—"Times" Telegram, per Press Association (Copyright).

AEROPLANES ARRIVE.

DEMONSTRATORS ARRESTED AT PORT SUDAN.

Khartum, Tuesday.

Four fighting aeroplanes arrived here at eight o'clock this morning, while four others are remaining at Atbara, pending the arrival of fittings.

Nine persons, including Ali Malasi, who was the ringleader, were arrested yesterday at Port Sudan for causing a small disturbance, which was easily dealt with by the police.—Reuter.

MARTIAL LAW.

Reuter's Agency learns that no news of any further disturbance in the Sudan has been received, and that tranquillity reigns in London. The report that martial law has been proclaimed in Port Sudan is so far unconfirmed. In this connection it is interesting to note that Article 3 of the Anglo-Egyptian Convention of 1899 states that the Sudan shall remain under martial law until otherwise determined. So far as can be ascertained, this provision has never been cancelled.

HEAVY WAHABIS LOSSES.

Jeddah, Tuesday.

News has reached here that Wahabis yesterday attacked and occupied the Trans-Jordan towns of Kutaif, Ora El Sanah, Badoo Dah, and Tarnah. Government forces, commanded by Khaled El Tal and Arif made a counter-movement, and after severe actions out of Tarnah. The troops received assistance from the local tribes. Three hundred Wahabis were killed, and many were taken prisoners, while a number of camels and rifles were captured.—Reuter.

A NEW MOVE.

WHITE FLAG COMMITTEE AND FOREIGNERS.

Khartum, Tuesday.

A manifesto upon Government stationery, which was delivered to post to-day to all the commercial communities here, accepting the British, says the members of the White Flag Committee, who are the real representatives of the Sudanese people, declare, in order to satisfy foreigners upon the point, that the recent anti-British outbreak has the wide support of the members of the committee. It trusts that foreigners will sympathise with and give moral support to its cause, for in the Valley of the Nile under King Fuad it is struggling to regain natural rights.

The manifesto concludes with an assurance that safety for trade will be the reward for such sympathy.—Reuter.

HIGHLANDERS' ARRIVAL.

Cairo, Tuesday.

The 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders should arrive at Port Sudan to-day.—Reuter.

CRUISERS AT NOVA SCOTIA.

Halifax (Nova Scotia), Monday.

The light cruisers H.M.S. Cape Town and H.M.S. Calcutta have put in here for a week.—Reuter.

FRENCH ANGER WITH MR MACDONALD.

Ruhr Letter Storm.

REICHSTAG EXPECTED TO AGREE TO TERMS.

Mr Ramsay MacDonald's letter urging early evacuation of the Ruhr has raised a storm of resentment in the French Press, which complains that it is unworthy of him and makes a fool of France.

The French Government, however, takes the letter calmly.

Paris, Tuesday.

The publication of Mr MacDonald's letter to M. Herriot and M. Thomas on the subject of the evacuation of the Ruhr came as a complete surprise to French political circles and the Press—though not, it is authoritatively learned, to M. Herriot himself, who gave his consent to its publication. The tendency in French official quarters is to minimise the importance of the letter on the ground that it merely represents the British Government's well-known standpoint.

This official attitude is inspired by a commendable desire to avoid compromising the present delicate negotiations with Berlin at this time. It is likewise comprehensible that the Government should not seek to enlarge upon a subject which affords the Opposition a powerful weapon in the forthcoming fight in Parliament.

Newspaper Resentment.

In contrast to the official reserve, the Press this evening, including the Governmental "Temps," does not conceal its displeasure at the publication and the contents of the letter.

It is agreed that the explanation of the letter is the pressure brought to bear upon Mr MacDonald by a section of his own party. Its publication at the present juncture is considered none the less to be inopportune. By raising a new question settled in London, the letter, it is argued, casts doubt on the validity of the London agreements, and in particular on the value of the British Government's promise to discuss Inter-Allied debts at an early date, a promise to which immense importance is attached in France.

The letter, it is held, will conjure up the prospect of a renewed campaign by the British Government and by the bankers to compel France to reduce the period of evacuation of the Ruhr. This is regarded as a high-handed procedure and is strongly resented.

"Figaro" writes that Mr MacDonald has made a fool not only of M. Herriot but of France, the unanimous verdict of which will be that Mr MacDonald has overstepped the limit.

"Unworthy."

The "Echo de Paris" says that a series of British indiscretions make France refuse any further concessions. The period of evacuation will now be expected.

"L'Action Française" describes the letter as an additional and gratuitous bludgeon blow on M. Herriot's head, and adds that the bankers reappear upon the scene behind Mr MacDonald to blackmail France.—Reuter.

The "Debats" says that the letter is unworthy of Mr MacDonald. "International agreements are based on good faith. Is it good faith to try in this way to wrench another concession from France?"—Central News.

GERMAN DECISION.

CHANCELLOR'S FAITH IN M. HERRIOT.

Berlin, Tuesday.

It is expected that the Reichstag will meet on Friday to consider the London Conference. Yesterday's meeting of the Cabinet, presided over by President Ebert, unanimously approved the German delegation's attitude in London, and the Government is determined to dissolve the Reichstag in the event of the latter failing to sanction the London pact.

The Government's policy in this respect was made clear to the leaders of the Reichstag parties in the subsequent discussions, when the Chancellor laid before them the results of the London negotiations, and emphasised that from long personal interviews with the French Premier, he came to the conclusion that M. Herriot had the best intentions, and could be trusted, and that his chief aim was the pacification of Europe.—Reuter.

PROSPECTS IN REICHSTAG.

Berlin, Tuesday.

At present nothing definite can be said as to the fate of the Dawes Bills in the Reichstag, but the chances in favour of their adoption are improving. The German Nationals, who so far have declared that the Bills must be tested in any case, now say their attitude will be determined at a party meeting next Thursday, and, as the German Nationals do not want new elections on the Dawes Bill platform, it can be expected that a sufficient number of German National deputies will vote in favour of the Bills.—Reuter.

FRENCH CABINET.

WORK OF DELEGATION APPROVED.

Paris, Tuesday.

The Cabinet, at a meeting to-day, unanimously adopted the work of the French delegates at the London Conference, and thanked them for the important results obtained in the interests of France. It was decided that on Thursday next M. Herriot should read in both Houses a complete statement on the work of the Conference.—Reuter.

THE FRENCH WITHDRAWAL.

Paris, Tuesday.

The Ministry of War to-day issues an announcement to the effect that the withdrawal of the occupying troops from Offenburg and Appenweier was carried out without incident.—Reuter.

GENERAL DAWES ON THE SETTLEMENT.

Evanston (Illinois), Tuesday.

Following on the night's demonstration at Lincoln, Nebraska, where Mr Bryan notified his vice-presidential nomination and outlined his programme, an equally enthusiastic gathering of Republicans was held at the home of General Dawes here this evening.

Discussing the question of reparations, General Dawes said:—"With the Experts' plan inaugurated, all Europe turns towards a new and peaceful life. The United States will be saved from the depths of an industrial and great depression in industry and in agriculture, which continued chaos and misery in Europe would entail. Indeed, the whole world enjoys upon a period of peace and prosperity."—Reuter.

MAJOR ZANNI'S MISFORTUNE.

Aeroplane Out of Action.

Hanoi, Tuesday.

Major Zanni, the Argentine airman, overturned at six o'clock this morning when taking off for his flight to Canton at the Bachmi Aerodrome. The mishap arose owing to the ground having been rendered sodden by heavy rains.

Neither Major Zanni nor Beltra, his mechanic, was injured. The machine, however, is out of action.—Reuter.

SPECTACULAR FLIGHT.

Major Zanni's flight, thus temporarily checked, if not brought to an end, has been the most spectacular of the three attempts to race to circle the globe by plane. Leaving Amsterdam on July 23, he made rapid progress, reaching Calcutta on the 9th inst., having spent the night of the 8th-9th on his aeroplane near an Indian village. Owing to mechanical trouble, he decided to make a forced landing, and having repaired the damage left for Calcutta in the morning. Here he was held up until the 15th inst. before repairs, including the fitting of a new propeller.

Resuming his flight, the aviator in three stages reached Hanoi.

When Major Zanni set out it was stated that he would use three planes—the first with ordinary landing wheels for the first section, the second with floats for the trans-Pacific stage, and the third a specially constructed machine for the Atlantic stretch. Presumably the new plane is in the East, and may be transported to Hanoi, so that Major Zanni may continue his flight. On the other hand, owing to the present junction on the machine, the airman is a decision to abandon the flight, as the weather in the North Pacific, but at the time Squadron-Leader MacLaren's machine was wrecked, will steadily grow worse until the return of spring.

ICELAND FILMS

FIRST TAKEN BY ITALIAN AIRMAN.

Reykjavik, Tuesday.

Lieut. Locatelli, the Italian world flier, enjoyed fine weather conditions all through his flight from Stykkisholm to Isafjord except for some fog east of the Faroe Islands.

While on his way from Harmsfjord to here he took a number of moving pictures of the landscape, the first to be taken in Iceland.

It is still uncertain whether he will join the Arctic expedition or spend the next week or a fortnight taking cinema photographs. He intends to follow the American route to the United States, going thence to South America.—Reuter.

AMERICANS' OFFER.

Reykjavik (later).

It is considered likely that Lieut. Locatelli will have finished the preparations for his further flight on Wednesday, and that he will accept the Italian Consul's offer and join the American world-fliers on the continuation of their tour. If he does not do this the Italian aviator will hire a steam vessel for public transport to Greenland and proceed without the warships' assistance.—Reuter.

MAN v. HORSE.

ANIMAL FALLS FURTHER BEHIND.

At the close last night of the second lap of the six days' man and horse race at Crystal Palace, London, the man's record was 1301 miles and that of the horse 125 miles 1200 yards. Yesterday the man covered 63 miles and the horse just over 58½ miles.

Hart was late in starting, and after the end of the third hour "Big Ben" held an advantage for the day of four miles, having covered 21 miles against 17 miles by the famous pedestrian.

HIGH COST OF LIVING IN FRANCE.

Paris, Tuesday.

A Council of Ministers and Under-Secretaries, presided over by M. Herriot, was held at the Quai d'Orsay this evening to consider the high cost of living, and especially the price of bread.

The discussion showed that the high price of bread was due to world prices, affecting a normal number of 75 per cent. France, which was still necessary notwithstanding the good harvest.

The Council decided to submit to the Senate as a matter of urgency a Bill for fixing the price of flour, a measure already adopted by the Chamber. The Council also decided to increase the proportion of grain milled from 75 per cent. to 78 per cent. This change, while not appreciably affecting the quality of the bread, is expected to result in a fall in present market prices.—Reuter.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN TREATIES.

Melbourne, Tuesday.

Speaking in the House of Representatives to-day, Mr Bruce explained that the recent treaties between Great Britain and Russia were confined practically entirely to questions between Great Britain and Russia, and Australian interests were not affected. Australia had been consulted from the Imperial Government indicating a desire for the most close consultation.—Reuter.

COMMUNISTS EXPELLED.

Berne, Monday.

The Government has expelled Herr Thomas, a Communist deputy of the Grand Reichstag, and M. Elbert, Secretary of the French Communist Party.—Reuter.

AUSTRALIAN CATTLE IN URUGUAY.

Monte Video, Tuesday.

The embargo on the importation of Australian cattle has been lifted.—Reuter.

RASTAFARI IN ATHENS.

Athens, Tuesday.

A gala dinner was given here yesterday evening in honour of the Regent of Abyssinia, Rastafari, by the President of the Greek Republic.—Reuter.

HURT BY TWO-TON BOUGH.

While a number of lads were sitting on a fence at Milton North Hause, a bough from a large tree fell.

All the lads jumped clear except Frank Manning, aged 14. He was pinned beneath the bough, which was calculated to weigh nearly two tons. When he was extricated, it was found that both his legs were broken.

PLUCKY MAID.

Struggle with Armed Burglar.

A daring attempt was made early yesterday morning to burgle the house of Mr James Y. Watson, 2 Linden Avenue, East Newport, near Dundee, but, thanks to the pluck of a maid, Ina Devine, the thief was unsuccessful. He succeeded in removing some silver articles, but they were afterwards discovered hidden in the garden.

The burglar, it appears, gained entrance to the house through a coal cellar. When the maid went downstairs about ten minutes to six she opened the front door and, on returning, found herself face to face with the burglar, who was leaving the dining-room. She at once grappled with him, and shouted for assistance.

The trapped burglar threw her forcibly across the hall and made for the door. Picking up a heavy handbell from the hall table, Miss Devine pursued and seized him by the neck of his shirt, endeavouring at the same time to hit him with the bell.

The burglar drew a knife or some other sharp instrument across her left arm, wounding her severely and causing her to faint, with the result that he escaped through the front door.

Miss Devine was found shortly afterward, still in a fainting condition, by the nurse attached to the household staff, and medical aid was summoned. The three attacks were made in the wound on Miss Devine's arm. She was able to give an accurate description of her assailant.

CHICAGO MURDER.

THREATENING LETTER FROM KU KLUX KLAN.

Chicago, Tuesday.

The police are investigating the origin of a letter urging the hanging of Leopold and Loeb, who are alleged to have murdered the boy Franks.

The letter was found on the steps of the house of a wealthy neighbour of the Loeb family. On it were placed—apparently as a paper weight—a human scalp, resting between two pieces of wood, with a horse's skull on the top. The bones were those of a woman, and were provided with metal tags, giving rise to the belief that they have come from a medical school.

The missive reads: "If the court does not hang them, we will," and was signed K. K. K.—the abbreviation of Ku Klux Klan.—Press Association Foreign Special.

PROSECUTOR URGES DEATH PENALTY.

Chicago, Tuesday.

The taking of evidence in the Leopold-Loeb case finished this afternoon, and the attorney for the prosecution then began his address, strongly urging the death penalty.—Reuter.

DOCTOR'S DEATH.

CORONER'S JURY AND THE OTHER DOCTOR

An inquest was held at Bournemouth yesterday on the body of James William Smith, retired doctor, aged 58, of Surrey Road, Bournemouth, who died on Sunday as the result of motor accident at Ringwood cross-roads at Boutremouth. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, adding the rider that Dr. H. A. Sys, of Bournemouth, the driver of the car which was stated to have struck Dr Smith was guilty of a gross error of judgment, having regard to the dangerous locality.

The evidence showed that Dr Smith was standing in a gateway at the corner when Dr Lys' car, coming up the hill collided with a Ford van coming out of a cross-road and knocked Dr Smith and his daughter down.

Dr Lys, giving evidence, said he was driving his car on top gear at eight miles per hour and could have pulled up in a few yards if he had not been surprised by the collision.

The jury also exonerated the driver of the Ford van, T. W. Dickenson, of Bransgrove, from blame.

The coroner suggested that the jury should leave out the word "gross" in their rider, but they did not concur.

MANY TRAGEDIES IN SPAIN.

Madrid, Monday.

A number of accidents occurred to-day at Almeria. A lorry, in which 30 engineers, 8 women, and 3 children were returning from a fete overturned. Sixteen persons were injured, including two women.

At Huelva, a boat too heavily laden with passengers sank, and a man, a woman, and a child were drowned.

At a ball fight at Novillos, in the commune of Blanca, a wall collapsed, killing five people, and injuring many others.—Reuter.

NEW CANADIAN REFUNDING LOAN.

Toronto, Monday.

The Ontario Government is calling for tenders for 20,000,000 dollars (£4,444,444) 41 per cent. 20 year bonds as a refunding issue, payable in Canada, London, and New York. Canada. The present exchange rate and the condition of the money markets make probable low London or New York tenders.—Reuter.

CANADA'S TRADE FIGURES.

Ottawa, Tuesday.

The figures for the July trade of Canada show total exports of 97,000,000 dols. (£19,800,000), being an increase of nearly 4,000,000 dols. (£888,000) as compared with July last year. Imports totalled 72,000,000 dols. (£15,000,000)—a decrease of 4,000,000 dols. (£1,000,000). For the first four months of the fiscal year exports decreased by nearly 43,000,000 dols. (£10,000,000), while exports increased by 27,000,000 dols. (£6,777,000). The balance of trade in favour of Canada is steadily growing, amounting for the four months to £12,444,000 for the past four months.—Reuter.

SERBIAN FRONTIER INCIDENT.

Athens, Tuesday.

It is reported from Salonica that a band of 50 Bulgarian comitadji attacked a Greek post near Gheugheli. They were pursued by Greek troops, and fled into Serbian territory.—Reuter.

A CANTON STRIKE.

Hong-Kong, Tuesday.

The strike of Chinese employees at Shameen, the European suburb of Canton, which has been going on for over a month, has ended, and the men are coming back to work.—Reuter.

NORTH OFFICER'S TRAGIC DEATH.

Bullet Wound in Head.

EDINBURGH PEARL CASE RECALLED.

Major C. A. Cameron, a native of Fort-William, was found shot dead in Hillsborough Barracks, Sheffield, at midnight on Monday.

His tragic death recalls the Edinburgh pearl necklace case in 1911, when Major Cameron and his wife were charged with having conceived a fraudulent scheme to obtain £6500 from Lloyds.

The vindication and reinstatement of Major Cameron as an officer followed six years later.

Major C. A. Cameron, C.B.E., D.S.O., commanding troops in Sheffield and also the 48th Battery, Royal Field Artillery at Hillsborough Barracks, was found unconscious in his room at the barracks about midnight on Monday with a bullet wound in the head. He was removed to the Royal Infirmary, but life was extinct on arrival there.

Major Cameron was to have left in a few days to take up a command in Newcastle. He was in the officers' mess on Monday evening, and appeared then to be quite normal. He left fairly early, and retired to his quarters. About 11.45, when his fellow-officers were passing his door after leaving the mess they heard curious noises emanating from within. On investigating they were horrified to find their commanding officer lying unconscious in a chair with a wound in the temple and a revolver lying a foot away. A curious fact is that nobody appears to have heard a shot.

Major Cameron was a native of Fort-William, and was a son of Colonel Aytmer Cameron, V.C. He had a distinguished military career, and had many times been entrusted with delicate missions all over the globe. In 1914 he was on the General Staff, with which he served until the Armistice, when he was recalled to the War Office. After three months with the Russian Department he went to Siberia. He took over the command of the Sheffield troops last year. Major Cameron had many war decorations.

An inquest will be held at Sheffield to-day.

PEARL CASE.

CAMERONS ARRESTED ON SUNDAY.

The tragic death yesterday of Major C. A. Cameron recalls the famous Edinburgh pearl case. As Lieutenant Cecil A. Cameron he was sentenced at Edinburgh in 1911 along with his wife to three years' imprisonment. In 1917 an unprecedented award was made in the Birthday Honours, when Lieut. Cameron was granted a full pardon by the King, and reinstated as an officer.

The pearl trial arose out of the fact that Mrs Cameron complained to her husband that she had had robbed in the street of a small necklace valued at £6500. Her husband, believing her story, tried to recover that sum from a firm of insurance brokers.

Following investigations by the police, the Camerons were arrested one Sunday afternoon as they were leaving for a carriage drive, and were charged with having conceived a fraudulent scheme to obtain £6500 from Lloyds.

Mrs Cameron afterwards declared that the stolen necklace was the gift of a man with an income of £30,000 a year, who went under the name of "Billy Walker," and that the real object of the Camerons' flat letters were seized purporting to come from "Walker," and relating to the gift of the necklace to Mrs Cameron.

The prosecution urged that "Billy Walker" was a myth. It was proved that the Camerons were in want of money, and two pawn-broker's shops in Edinburgh, standing outside the chemist's shop into which the husband had gone when the theft was alleged by Mrs Cameron to have taken place, denied that anyone had molested her.

Other evidence for the prosecution was that Mrs Cameron was never actually in possession of the necklace which she insured.

Lieut. Cameron during the trial refused to give evidence. His real reason for doing so was not divulged until months later. His wife, who had been released after two months owing to illness, fearing that she was about to die, confessed that she and her self-styled "Billy Walker" was entirely innocent. Had he gone into the witness-box it would, of course, have precluded the case against his wife, and he preferred to suffer imprisonment in silence.

At the outbreak of war Lord Kitchener allowed him to rejoin the Army two months after a petition had been presented to the Scottish Secretary for a re-trial of the case, headed by Cameron of Lochiel, five dukes, including the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Sandwich, Lord Roberts, 250 members of the Privy Council, 126 generals, and a host of others.

STOP PRESS NEWS.

AMERICAN AIR FLIGHT.

Reikjavik, Tuesday.

Flight-Commander Smith hopes that the repairs to his machine may be completed in two hours so that the planes can start for Frediksdal to-morrow if the weather conditions are favourable. If there is any further delay owing to bad weather, or if the ice conditions at Angmagsalik improve, the fliers may perhaps make for that place as originally intended.—Reuter.

CATTLE DEALER'S DEATH.

The "Westminster Gazette" announces the death at Carmarthen of Mr David Phillips, cattle dealer, who has sold scores of cattle to the King, and was a familiar figure at cattle fairs in Wales and England.

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LOEB AND LEOPOLD SENTENCED.

Imprisoned for Life.

LAST SCENE IN CHICAGO MURDER TRIAL.

Leopold and Loeb, both under twenty, the sons of Chicago millionaires, have been sentenced to imprisonment for life for the murder of the boy Franks, the son of another millionaire.

The Judge stated that the youth of the murderers was his reason for not passing the death sentence. The fathers of the lads were present in court. There will be no appeal of any kind.

New York, Wednesday.

Leopold and Loeb, the murderers of the boy Franks, have both been sentenced to life imprisonment.

Youth was the controlling factor in Judge Caverley's decision. He said that no minor had ever been sentenced to death in Illinois on a plea of guilty. As Judge Caverly delivered his decision the two prisoners gave him a studied inspection. Not a muscle moved on Leopold's face as the judge indicated imprisonment to be his fate. Loeb blinked his eyelids and gulped slightly, contracting his lips.

"The court finds no mitigation in the crime itself," declared the judge, "in the defendants' personalities or antecedents."

Judge Caverly added that he accepted "full responsibility for declining to impose the death penalty on persons not fully of age."

The court adjourned ten minutes after being convened.

In order the comply with technicalities there were separate sentences on the murder and kidnapping charges. Life imprisonment was the punishment for murder and 99 years' imprisonment the punishment for kidnapping.—Reuter.

GREATER PUNISHMENT.

FATHERS NOT TO MAKE ANY APPEAL.

Chicago, Wednesday.

In giving its decision in favour of life imprisonment instead of death for Leopold and Loeb, the court intimated, as announced, that it was moved chiefly by the age of the defendants—boys of 18 and 19—adding that such a course appeared to be in accordance with the progress of criminal law all over the world and the dictates of enlightened humanity.

"While life imprisonment," it is set forth in the judgment, "may not strike the public imagination as forcibly as would hanging, yet to offenders, particularly of the type they are, the prolonged suffering of years of confinement may well be the more severe form of retribution and expiation. In the case of atrocious crimes like this it is entirely within the discretion of the Department of Public Welfare never to admit defendants to parole. To such a policy the court urges them strictly to adhere. If this course is persevered in, the punishment of these defendants will both satisfy the ends of justice and safeguard the interests of society."

After sentence was pronounced Nathan Loeb, senior, father of one of the defendants, who sat with his head bowed, declared, in answer to a question by one of the pressmen, that he would never attempt to secure his son's release from prison.

Leopold, senior, sat silently weeping while the decision was read, and refused to make any comment.

Mr Darrow, chief counsel for the defence, said it was all they could have asked for, and no appeal would be taken.

As the sheriff was hurrying off to the local jail with the prisoners he stated that he expected to start for the penitentiary with them within an hour. In the meantime a huge, silent crowd had congregated about the entrance to the local jail to get a sight of the boys.—Press Association Foreign Special.

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ort.

The Aga Khan's Salmon Trout won 85 Leger. The owner's winnings the season amount to over £31,000. 7

PENING OF THE AUTUMN CAMPAIGN.

Mr Lloyd George opened the utumn political campaign in subdued em last night in Wales. He is the st of the leaders to break silence in hat is expected to be an intensified ctnight of platform oratory. But his eech at Penmaenmawr was scarcely pical of the man. It took the form of serious discussion of the Russian and ish situations, with a definite lead to ose Liberals who are prepared to take dvice from the ex-Premier. Whether r not that lead will be accepted by e majority of those who call themlves Liberal it is impossible at the oment to say. Mr Asquith has lately pped more and more into the political ackground, and Mr Lloyd George, inerting the experience of Disraeli, is llowed at present by his Party with oubt and suspicion. Yet the man who uided and shaped the national will uring the most critical phase in our ation's history can surely regain a astertul ascendancy over the Party ith which he has been identified dur-g most of his career. The question onfronting many, however, is whether here is actually a future for that arty in view of the turn which politics ave taken since the war. When the ext General Election is over, there is very probability that the future of the iberal Party and of Mr Lloyd George ill both be definitely decided.

Meantime Mr Lloyd George is enaged in the task of re-proving to his wn friends that he is their destined eader, and he has outlined his position owards the Russian Treaty and the rish Boundary question. Not long efore he died, Lord Morley remarked : "Ireland and Russia are the two most "'Christian' countries in Europe, yet "to-day they are the most disfigured by "violence and outrage"; and he asked friend who was with him: "What do "you think of that?" He concluded that he Irish were a people who could not ive without a grievance, and that is he opinion of most people who have tudied the southern Irish. The Boundary question is a case in point. The letter of Lord Birkenhead has hown that the intention of the Act setting up the Free State was that the work of the Boundary Commission hould be confined to the mere adjustment of parishes. Irish Free State representatives, on the other hand, have spoken of reducing Ulster to three counties, and their passion for grievances would not end there if such an iniquitous concession were made. Mr Lloyd George confirms the view laid down by Lord Birkenhead, and the ex-Lord Chancellor's letter has unmistakably simplified that problem so far as the British people are concerned.

As regards Russia, Unionists are in harmony with the Lloyd Georgian view that the Government of this country must not pledge the national purse in connection with any loan of millions for Bolshevists. A British loan would merely be throwing good money after bad. It will be time enough to treat with Russia when she returns to the path of ordered civilisation. The system of the Soviet has been to reduce government in their own country to chaos, and their intention is to spread anarchy throughout the world. They must not be assisted in their mission by British money. Liberals in the mass and Unionists are united at least on this point.

Murder for Sport.

The sentence of life imprisonment passed on Leopold and Loeb, the American boy murderers, yesterday, will probably be regarded as satisfying the ends of justice and at the same time demonstrating to all the world that under the democratic Constitution of the United States there are some things which the wealth of multi-millionaires cannot buy—that moral perverts, whether rich or poor, are treated with the same stern equity. Doubting Thomases may recall that the murderers on their arrest expressed the conviction that money would pull them through. They may recall, too, that within recent months the President of the United States has pardoned a bootlegger, and that the Governor of Illinois was acquitted of embezzlement by a jury which was accused of having been bribed. These, however, are incidental issues. In this case the white searchlight of publicity was turned on the proceedings in the New York Court, and though the judgment and sentence will probably be challenged by those who demand "an eye for an eye and a "tooth for a tooth," there is no reason to doubt that Judge Caverly spoke truly when he claimed that the Court found no mitigation "in the crime itself, in "the defendants' personalities or "antecedents."

The crime occupies a niche of its own in the annals of criminology, and, apart altogether from the legal aspects of the case, suggests some interesting problems in alienology and psychoanalysis. The main features of the crime will still be fresh in the public memory. On Wednesday, May 21, Robert Franks, an American student, disappeared on his way home from school. There was wild talk of kidnapping, and on the following day the boy's father, a wealthy American magnate, received a letter directing him to call at a certain drug store in order to receive telephone information with regard to payment of ransom. That same afternoon, however, the naked body of the lad was found under a railway culvert on some vacant land—killed by a blow on the head or by strangulation. Suspicion fell at first on certain teachers of the school; but eventually the discovery of a pair of spectacles in the vicinity of the culvert led to the arrest of Nathan Leopold, son of a wealthy Chicago merchant, and, later, of Richard Loeb, the son of another prominent Jewish family. Soon the Chicago and New York Press had blazoned abroad every detail of the case in peculiarly American fashion; indeed, it may safely be affirmed that had our stringent British laws with regard to contempt of court had a place on the statute book of the United States, two-thirds of the newspaper editors would have been imprisoned.

The trial of millionaires' sons by the American Press, while it may have threatened to prejudice the administration of justice, brought to light some extraordinary facts. The crime was not committed in a moment of passion or for the sake of gain. It had been contemplated for several weeks before the actual blow was struck. The youths resolved on committing a literary crime: murder for sport, murder for sheer lust of killing, murder for its own sake. They wanted to know what it felt like to be murderers, also to observe how a person acts when being killed; and one of the culprits is said to have remarked that the killing of a boy was "no more than impaling a "beetle on a pin."

It is an easy matter to dismiss the murder as a manifestation of deplorable abnormality. Alienists will no doubt discover in it symptoms of atavism—a reversion to a former barbaric type—while moralists will see in the murder the curse of the "silver "spoon"—and probably in these theories there is an element of truth. The most satisfactory feature of a sensational case, however, is that both the youthful decadents are now behind prison bars for an indefinite period.

Clothes and the Man.

The theory that the worst-dressed men in the country are tailors—which was hinted at in a furtive whisper yesterday at the Blackpool conference of the men who make our clothes—is, of course, a gross libel on an honourable body of citizens. It is conceived presumably in the spirit of the familiar Scottish jibe which avers that "the smith's mear ain "the sooter's wife are aye warst shod." There may, of course, have been a certain element of truth in these dictums once upon a time, but most of the tailors and bootmakers who acted on that principle are either dead and decently buried or have fallen so ignominously below the ken that their names are never mentioned in the presence of modern and enterprising business men. It may not be impossible in every case for the tailor to be his own best advertisement, but business publicity of that kind has nevertheless a real and solid value.

Carlyle was probably right in affirming that clothes have made men of us. One estimable lady, it is true, won undying fame by going through the streets of an English city unattired, but that happened a long time ago—and is never likely to occur again. After all, "without hat, "trappings where is man's power? Could "a rude Prime Minister inspire earthlies "but ribald laughter? Picture the "Treaty-makers of Europe (or shall we "say the world-builders of the League of "Nations?) not only destitute of mental "vision but visibly destitute of physical "covering." That is the whole philosophy of clothes in a nutshell. True, there have been, and are still, those amongst us who prefer the free-and-easy comfort and familiar touch of an old suit to the most fashionably cut coat or trousers; but the spirit of fidelity to an old friend dies hard, but nevertheless in clothes, as in the larger affairs of life, "the old order "changeth, giving place to new"—and so with reluctant sigh even the easy-going mortal must don attire of the latest cut lest one good fashion should corrupt the world.

Tailoring, like everything else, is of course passing through a transition stage at present. It may be true, as Sir Arthur Chadwick said yesterday, that this age of competition and hard work is impossible for a man to become fashionably rich in a short space of time and to be honest—but there are those who allege that certain British tailors have seriously endeavoured to do so! The competitive spirit, however, prohibits undue profiteering; and so, too, does the introduction of modern methods of manufacture. Nowadays even the made-to-measure suit is being turned out on the Ford principle.

QUATER-CENTENARY OF RONSARD.

To-day marks the 400th anniversary of Pierre de Ronsard, the acknowledged chief and most voluminous poet of the French Pleiade. Several sonnets of Du Bellay exhibit the characteristic virtuous melancholy of the Renaissance more perfectly than anything of his, while a few isolated pieces of Belleau excel in a airy lightness of touch, but Ronsard is pre-eminently the king of that poets in magnificence of imagery and graceful variety of metre.

The Porpoise Press, Edinburgh, mark the fourth centenary of his birth by issuing as one of their shilling brochures "Selected Poems of Pierre de Ronsard," translated by Charles Graves. Among them are "Versons ces roses" and "La belle Venus," but even in a selection so meagre and inadequate Mr Graves might have found place at least for the famous "Quand vous serez bien vieille," one of the acknowledged gems of French literature.

The Weather Again!

I suppose we must admit that the promoters of Wembley lost their gamble in the throw (says "The Bystander"). An enterprise that depends for its success upon the vagaries of the British climate, in its very essence, a gamble. Given a decent summer, the Exhibition would have gone down to history as a triumph of enterprise and a miracle of organisation. But it was not to be. The little devil that surely lives up aloft worked the wicked will from the word "Go," and showed no pity at any stage in the proceedings.

A Bramble Superstition.

Though the French are credited with being more thrifty in many respects than ourselves, they are not so in regard to the harvest of the hedgerows (says a writer in the "Manchester Guardian"). Many French folk think of picking blackberries and tons of them go to waste.

If you ask why, one Frenchman will tell you they are poisonous, another that they do not suit the Gallic taste and will not bear exportation, but perhaps one gets nearer the origin of the ban in Brittany where the picking or eating of blackberries is regarded with horror because Breton tradition associates the bramble bush with the Crown of Thorns.

The Vanishing Lady.

One of the many amusing anecdotes in the late Carl Hertz's book, "A Modern Mystery Merchant," just published, concerns a French nobleman. He had seen Hertz perform the "vanishing lady" trick in Paris, and paid the magician generously to teach it to him.

The nobleman then performed it with his beautiful young wife as the "victim" at a party at his own house. The lady duly disappeared, but when, the applause having subsided, the nobleman announced that he would now have the honour of bringing his wife back, he found that the lady had actually vanished, leaving a note to say that she couldn't bear his society any longer, and had taken that opportunity to leave him for ever.